



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
DEFENSE STANDARDIZATION PROGRAM OFFICE
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IN REPLY
REFER TO

DSPO

October 9, 2002

MEMORANDUM FOR DOD STANDARDIZATION MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: Citing Sources for Copies of Non-Government Standards

It has come to our attention that some preparing activities are citing in Section 2, "APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS," of their government specifications and standards, specific commercial document distributors as the source for obtaining referenced non-government standards. While we recognize that in some cases, non-government standards bodies may have outsourced the distribution of their standards to a specific commercial document distributor, the postal and email address given in Section 2 for obtaining copies of a non-government standard should be the issuing standards organization and not a document distributor.

Generally, federal agencies try to avoid giving preference to a single document distributor. In addition, non-government standards bodies regularly renegotiate their outsourcing contracts. This means that that a commercial document vendor that distributes an organization's standards today may not be the source tomorrow. By citing the issuing standards organization, we ensure that users are aware of the most current document source and avoid giving preferential treatment to a particular document distributor.

We greatly appreciate your cooperation in this matter. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Steve Lowell at (703) 767-6879 or DSN 427-6879.


GREGORY E. SAUNDERS
DIRECTOR

cc: DepSOs